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PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AREA, ORR

Month of April 1954

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

CONFIDENTIAL

A. Accomplishments

1. The attached reports from the four Divisions of the Geographic Research Area give the major accomplishments for the Area as a whole. Each Division reports a heavy production and considerable backlog remaining at the time of this report. Several "CRASH" projects in the Area should be noted. In each case the Indochina problem necessitated the call for high priority work. The Office of the Chief's major accomplishments were in the field of coordination activities as described below.

B. Coordination Activities

1. Acting in a liaison capacity the Acting Chief of Geographic Research arranged a meeting between members of OCI and the Terrain Model Unit of the Army Map Service. The meeting was to investigate the possibility of having the Army Map Service prepare models for OCI briefings on a "CRASH" basis. The results of the meeting led to the fact that to do so would be prohibitively expensive and, therefore, arrangements were not initiated to request such terrain models.

2. The Office of Training inquired of ORR whether or not the latter could assume the responsibility for budgeting for the reproduction of ORR bulk map requirements. It was agreed that ORR would budget for such map requirements based on a statement of written requirements to be submitted by ORR. Such requirements will be submitted for FY 1955 and for the preparation of the FY 1956 budget.

3. In view of a request by D/GG to have [REDACTED] travel through Italy, Yugoslavia and Greece prior to his return State-side from [REDACTED] an official request has been submitted to AD/CI for such travel approval.

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4. The training program for [REDACTED] D/GC, in preparation to his assignment to [REDACTED] progressed smoothly in spite of the necessity to submit a request for medical waiver.

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5. The staff members of the Geographic Research Area, under the auspices of St/1, briefed the Foreign Documents Division, Office of Operations. A review of the Area's basic responsibilities was given and at least one effective liaison channel was established between the FDD and D/GC as a result of the briefing.

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6. Further discussions were held with members of OCI regarding the problem of consolidating the two graphic units currently existing in that Office and ORR.

C. Problems

1. A work priority problem continues to exist in D/GC. Several Geography Division reports and Economic Area reports have been or are scheduled to be delayed due to the inability of D/GC to meet all of its commitments. The stepped up program of production in D/B/RR also is reflected in D/GC and slightly aggravates the priority problem. A careful weighing of priority appears to be the only solution currently available.

2. A similar problem in D/GP has resulted in considerable overtime and undue demand on personnel particularly over weekends. It is expected that this reflects only a current situation which will right itself automatically.

3. The Map Library Division continues to be handicapped by not having an additional clerical position assigned to the Division to adequately handle the photo mosaic program.

Enclosures (4)

Monthly Report for D/GC

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